

**IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) Connection device for a tubular-frame structure for supporting surfaces comprising a body (18) from which projects [[ing]] at least one socket (19) for connecting to tubular profiles (15) in a perpendicular direction or at an angle, said body (18) having a projecting [[s a ]] connector (20) for [[a]] releasable connection of a tubular leg (14), ~~in which~~ said at least one socket (19) said socket (19) having [[s]] a non-continuous external wall (21), which defines an internal seat (22)[[,]] that is attached at a base by an abutment surface (42) for a blocking means, carrying a threaded hole (25) which houses an operation grain (23) which has complimentary threads at a first end to engage said threaded hole (25), said operation grain (23) having an abutment crown (30) above said complimentary threads and at a second end opposite the end having threads, an unthreaded shaft (31) that has a groove (32) for housing a sealing element (33) comprising a broken ring, said socket (19) having a hole (34) adapted for housing said unthreaded shaft (31) and said sealing element (33) of said operation grain (23) wherein said connector (20) is being composed of an expandable cylindrical body comprising a plurality of notches (37, 38) and upon which acts a second operation grain (39), which can be operated through a key from outside said tubular leg (14).

2. (canceled)

3. (previously amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein said blocking means is a beam (24) which has a U-shaped cross-section.

4. (previously amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein said blocking means causes or prevents connection by interfering only with curved portions (41) of said external wall (21), opposite a beam (24), with a tubular profile (15) moving along in said seat (22) controlled by said operation grain (23).

5. (previously amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein said tubular profile (15) is fitted until said tubular profile (15) abuts against an abutment surface (35) of said body (18).

6. (previously amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein said operation grain (23) can be accessed through a hole (36) on a tubular profile (15) fitted onto said at least one socket (19).

7. (cancelled).